REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of any changes to the claims and the remarks herein. Please contact the undersigned to conduct a telephone interview in accordance with MPEP 713.01 to resolve any remaining requirements and/or issues prior to sending another Office Action. Relevant portions of MPEP 713.01 are included on the signature page of this amendment.

Claim 24 has been amended to correct a typographical error to overcome the rejection thereof under 35 U.S.C. 112 for lack of antecedent basis.

A petition and amendment to the inventorship adding Bruce Kenneth Furman has been submitted herewith.

Claims 1-20 and 22-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Angelopoulos et al. (5,804,100).

The Examiner states that "these rejections are maintained for reasons set forth at pages 10-16 of paper #5 (Rejection mailed 2/28/03)" which is:

With respect to Angelopoulos et al. (5,804,100), the Examiner respectfully maintains that this reference is available under 102(e). The newly referenced CIP parent applications do not support the instant claims in their entirety. In order to provide support for the claimed invention, an application must disclose/describe each and every claim limitation present.

Applicant respectfully disagrees. The present CIP application names all the inventors of US 5,804,100. Applicants do not agree with the Examiner's comments. But to the extent that the Examiner is correct in stating that part of the current claims are supported by US 5,804,100 that part correspond to the inventors of US 5,804,100

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who are inventors of the present application and thus as to that part of the current claims US 5,804,100 is not a 102(e) reference since both have the same inventive entity. Moreover, that part of the present claims that do not correspond to the teaching of US 5,804,100 is not anticipated by US 5,804,100 and could at best be obvious over US 5,804,100. But since US 5,804,100 is assigned to the assignee of the present invention, as a 102(e) reference, it cannot support a 35 USC 103(a) rejection. Therefore, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the changes to the claims and the remarks herein, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the above-identified application. If the Examiner wishes to discuss the application further, or if additional information would be required, the undersigned will cooperate fully to assist in the prosecution of this application.

Please charge any fee necessary to enter this paper and any previous paper to deposit account 09-0468.

If the above-identified Examiner's Action is a final Action, and if the above-identified application will be abandoned without further action by applicants, applicants file a Notice of Appeal to the Board of Appeals and Interferences appealing the final rejection of the claims in the above-identified Examiner's Action. Please charge deposit account 09-0468 any fee necessary to enter such Notice of Appeal.

In the event that this amendment does not result in allowance of all such claims, the undersigned attorney respectfully requests a telephone interview at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

MPEP 713.01 states in part as follows:

Where the response to a first complete action includes a request for an interview or a telephone consultation to be initiated by the examiner, ... the examiner, as soon as he or she has considered the effect of the response, should grant such request if it appears that the interview or consultation would result in expediting the case to a final action.

Respectfully submitted

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